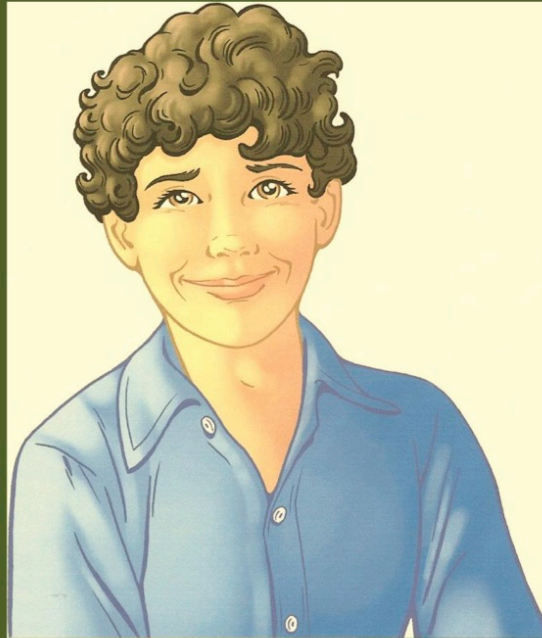


THE BARTON SERIES

BARTON AND FRIENDS



BY

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(Ages 8 and over)

BARTON AND FRIENDS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

STORY	PAGE
1. LITTLE MISS, LITTLE SIR	9
2. NOTHING STANDS BETWEEN US	12
3. EVEN MATHEMATICS IS SOMETIMES ODD	20
4. DO NOT DECEIVE ME	24
5. JOURNEY TO THE UNKNOWN	28
6. A WORLD OF SCIENCE	36
7. MY ROLE	46

LITTLE MISS, LITTLE SIR

This particular Friday evening at school appeared to drag slowly along. The closer it was to the sound of the closing bell, the slower the hands of the clock seemed to move. The long, hard week of school would soon draw to an end and every student looked forward to the weekend, which was usually a promise of much fun and relaxation.



Though the students would be sure to get a little extra homework, most of their weekend hours were usually still available for fun and games with friends and the occasional family outings. Miss, though, had something extra for homework that weekend.

“How many of my students would like to become teachers when you are older?” she asked.

Miss looked and smiled at the fine showing of hands of those who opted for the noble profession and then she offered a proposal.

“How would you like to be a teacher on any topic of your choice?” she asked invitingly.

The class listened attentively as Miss explained further.

“You would be requested to come to the front of the class and teach a topic of your choice. You should give full explanations, be ready to answer any questions on the topic that may be asked, and perhaps even ask a few of your own. You would be given between ten to fifteen minutes to conduct your lesson,” Miss suggested.

“Maybe just a little more if you like,” she added, smilingly.

The class was fascinated by the challenge. They often pretended when they played among themselves. They would pretend to be firemen and truck drivers. They would be operators of large machines such as tractors, bulldozers and cranes. Sometimes they acted as nurses and doctors and even engineers as they built imaginary buildings and bridges and various other structures. Sometimes, too, when they helped other students with schoolwork, they even pretended to be teachers.



It was not too long after Miss posed the challenge that several hands were raised. The students opted to deliver a short but effective lesson on a topic of their choice. Miss was quite pleased with the responses.

“We shall start next week,” she said. “You can work individually or in a small group,” Miss advised.

“Whoever is first ready, we shall begin with them. We can have these lessons, maybe once or twice a week, depending on how many of you are ready,” she added.

The pupils of Miss’ class were thrilled. They saw an opportunity to display their skill on a topic of their choice and to perform in front of the class as a teacher. They loved their Miss and they adored her. They liked the challenge that Miss posed and each of the volunteers thought that they would create a wonderful lesson for their presentation. They would learn much from other presenters and others would learn from them as well.

Barton’s hand was one among those that were raised that evening in class. As he ambled homewards, many thoughts ran through his active, young mind.